

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 3439

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, CZ

SUBJECT: CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES

REFS A. PRAGUE 3417 B. PRAGUE 3346

1. SUMMARY: NEGOTIATION OF CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT WAS SUCCESSFULLY AND RELATIVELY QUICKLY CONCLUDED AT MEETING DECEMBER 1. KEY ISSUES OF REFERENCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLE AND DURATION OF AGREEMENT WERE RESOLVED WITH COMPROMISE FORMULATIONS ALONG LINES SUGGESTED REF B. CZECH AND ENGLISH TEXTS WILL BE COMPARED NEXT WEEK AND SENT TO DEPARTMENT FOR FINAL REVIEW. ATTENTION SHOULD NOW BE FOCUSED ON IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS TO BE WORKED OUT IN TIME FOR SIGNING OF AGREEMENT SOMETIME IN SPRING OF 1977-- PERHAPS ABOUT APRIL 1. END SUMMARY.

2. INDIVIDUALS: CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE ACCEPTED THE FOLLOWING

VERSION OF IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLE 8(F) TAKEN ALMOST INTACT FROM US-HUNGARIAN EXCHANGE AGREEMENT. ONLY CHANGE IS SUBSTITUTION OF "WILL" FOR "AGREE TO."

"THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WILL ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE, AS EACH SIDE DEEMS APPROPRIATE, MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ADDITIONAL EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION INITIATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS AGREEMENT BY INTERESTED INSTITUTIONS, ORGANIZATIONS OR  
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PERSONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ACTIVE IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE,

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY."

3. DURATION: CZECHOSLOVAKS ACCEPTED TWO-YEAR PLUS TWO-YEAR FORMULA WITHOUT SPECIFIC MENTION OF FOUR-YEAR TOTAL. THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE 10(A) WAS AGREED UPON:

"THIS AGREEMENT WILL ENTER INTO FORCE UPON SIGNATURE AND REMAIN IN FORCE FOR TWO YEARS. UNLESS TERMINATED BY EITHER CONTRACTING PARTY UPON SIX MONTHS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE OTHER CONTRACTING PARTY, IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE PROLONGED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TWO YEARS. IT MAY THEREAFTER BE PROLONGED OR AT ANY TIME BE MODIFIED BY MUTUAL CONSENT OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES."

4. "FACILITATION OF ACCESS:" AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 3(J) WAS READILY AGREED.

5. NEXT STEPS: CZECHOSLOVAKS SEE THE NEXT STAGE MUCH AS WE DO. STRICTLY SPEAKING, THEY DO NOT BELIEVE TEXTS NEED BE INITIALED, AGREE THAT PROGRAM DOCUMENTS--SEPARATE ONES FOR THE C/E AND S/T PARTS OF THE AGREEMENT--SHOULD BE SIGNED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE UMBRELLA AGREEMENT, AND SIMPLY APPEAR TO BE AIMING FOR SIGNATURE BEFORE THE 1977 BELGRADE CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, ZEMLA WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE NOTES INCLUDING TEXT OF AGREEMENT WITH US. I WAS NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT THIS IDEA, WHICH WOULD TEND TO FORMALIZE THE STATUS OF THE AGREEMENT SOMEWHAT MORE, BUT WE SEE NO PARTICULAR REASON FOR NOT AGREEING TO SUCH A STEP. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE. FAILING AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, MFA MIGHT BEGIN TO PRESS FOR INITIALLING THE AGREEMENT. ZEMLA NOTED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS WOULD REQUIRE "THREE TO FOUR MONTHS" TO REVIEW THE UMBRELLA AGREEMENT BEFORE GOC WOULD BE READY TO SIGN.

6. WITHIN A FEW DAYS WE WILL HAVE COMPARED CZECH AND ENGLISH TEXTS IN A PRELIMINARY WAY, AT WHICH POINT BOTH AGREED DRAFT TEXTS WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT FOR COMPARISON.

7. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF CU/EE DIRECTOR YALE RICHMOND, WE TRIED TO SOUND OUT THE CZECHS AS TO WHEN THEY WOULD BE READY TO BEGIN TALKS ON PROGRAM DOCUMENTS. CZECHS SAID THEY WOULD START WORK ON DOCUMENTS RIGHT AWAY AND WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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WILLING TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS AT CONVENIENCE OF U.S. EXPERTS. NO FIRM DATE WAS FIXED FOR BEGINNING OF FORMAL TALKS HERE, BUT TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH HOLIDAY SEASON AND PAO QUINN'S HOME LEAVE(JANUARY 3-FEBRUARY 20), WE BELIEVE END OF FEBRUARY-BEGINNING OF MARCH WOULD BE A REASONABLE ESTIMATE.

8. I WOULD LIKE TO UNDERScore OUR TANKS TO THOSE IN DEPARTMENT WHO SAW US THROUGH THESE SOMETIMES DIFFICULT

NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE IT CAN HARDLY BE SAID THAT AGREEMENT CONSTITUTES  
A BREAKTHROUGH IN U.S. - CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS, WE DO  
FEEL IT IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.  
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